coal field areas, telephones do not function properly;

(c) whether it is also a fact that microwave towers in Senedih Berno and Gouria have not been commissioned since one year; and

(d) if so, what immediate corrective steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM (a) Yes, Sir. By modern technology equipment including C-DOT.

(b) The telephone services in Dhanbad, Ranchi, Bokaro, Giridih and Hazaribag districts in coal field areas of Bihar are generally satisfactory. However, some-times problems arise due to old technology exchanges. Action has been initiated to replace these exchanges by electronic exchanges.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At Sinidih a forty metre tower has been erected and 120 Channel Digital UHF system has been planned for commissioning during 1993-94. At Bermo and Gomia eighty metre and fifty metre high towers have been erected and 120 Channel Digital UHF link has been commissioned during 1992-93.

Launching of Satellite Network

3943. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Tele-communications is to launch its own satellite network;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would consider to encourage such types of technologies to indianise the entire system of tele-communications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM (a) No, Sir.

Department of Telecommunications has its own domestic satellite telecommunication networks since November, 1980.

(b) Total 78 fixed departmental satellite earth stations have been set up in different parts of the country covering remote, backward, hilly inaccessible, Island areas for providing telecommunication facilities.

Remote Area Message Network has been set up for providing low speed data services.

(c) Yes, Sir, most of the technology for ground station equipments have already been indigenised.

उत्तर प्रदेश के सभी उपमंडलीय मुख्यालयों में एस०टी०डी० सुविधायें

3944. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के सभी उपमंडलीय मुख्यालयों में मार्च, 1993 तक एस०टी०डी० सुविधा प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन-किन उपमंडलीय मुख्यालयों में एस०टी०डी० सुविधा प्रदान कर दी गई है ;

(ग) किन-किन उपमंडलीय मुख्यालयों में अभी तक एस०टी०डी० सुविधा प्रदान नहीं की गई है ; और

(घ) इन मुख्यालयों में मार्च, 1993 तक एस०टी०डी० सुविधा प्रदान न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) जी नहीं ।